

To Whom It May Concern

We are very concerned about the effect of native vegetation laws on the value of our property particularly as we are in the process of converting to freehold.

The property in question, is in the _____ and is 1718 hectares in area. The primary farming operations carried out are broadacre and livestock production. The proposed freehold agreement from the NSW Land and Property Management Authority, places 873 hectares in a covenant which includes such restrictions as the prohibition of any clearing of native vegetation, tillage or application of herbicide or establishment of non-native crops or exotic pasture species or the logging of native vegetation.

Some of the land which has been covered by this proposed covenant is improved pasture which has some exotic pasture species amongst the grasses or has saltbush plots on it.

Our major concern is that the value of the land would be greatly reduced if in the future we wish to sell the land as the prospective buyer would be less inclined to invest if they cannot develop the land to its full potential. Our personal belief is that the land value could be reduced by as much as 50%. Given that equivalent properties have sold for as much as \$2500 a hectare, the loss of value could be in excess of a million dollars at current prices. This we believe to be an unjust imposition on a commercial farming operation and our property rights.